and 1 50% in case of Maize. The post harvest wastage is upto 25 40% in case of fruits and vegetables.

(c) In order to minimise post harvest losses at farm level the Ministry of Food is implementing a regular plan scheme known as Save Grain Compaign which organises training, demonstration and publicity programmes in selected villages. The National Horticulture Board has taken up a massive programme for creating post harvest infrastructure during the 8th Plan. The programme includes establishment of Grading Packing Centre in producing areas, development of cold chain including refrigerated transport pre-cooling units and cold storages, improving shelf life by way of waxing, etc. The Board is also assisting various organisations like co-operative societies, farmers' organisations, Agro.-Hort. Corporations, public/private limited companies for creating post harvest infrastructure facilities for horticultural produce.

Cultivation cost of Tobacco and Cotton in Guntur and Prakasam Districts

1540. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the cost of cultivation of tobacco and cotton in Guntur and Prakasam districts ;

(b) what is the per acre yield as well as cost of production; and

(c) what steps are taken to increase the production and to reduce the cost of cultivation of tobacco and cotton ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The estimates of cost of cultivation of tobacco and cotton at district level are not prepared and therefore not available.

(b) The per hectare yield of the two crops in two districts during 1992-93 is given below:

S. No.	District	Yield (Kg./Ha.)	
		Tobacco	Cotton
1	Guntur	1,271	368
2	Prakasam	1,007	319

The cost of Production at district level is not available.

(c) In order to step up production of all types of cotton, Government of India have launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) which is being implemented in 11 major cotton growing States including Andhra Pradesh. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is being provided for propagating the use of pheromone traps and NPV, supply of Sprinkler sets and contingencies. Similarly for tobacco, besides development of high yielding varieties, the Tobacco Board has been implementing schemes for increasing productivity of virginia tobacco. Under these schemes, farmers are assisted for balanced use of fertilisers, pest control, sprinkler sets, topping/suckericides, insulation of curing barns, etc. These schemes in cotton and tobacco are aimed at increasing productivity leading to decrease in unit cost of production.

Shortfall in Production of Foodgrains

1541. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any shortfall in the production of foodgrain during the current year ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) According to the present assessment, the production of foodgrains during 1993-94 is expected to be close to the last year's record level of 180.01 million tonnes.

Probability of Decline in Production of Oilseeds

1542. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the oilseed production is likely to fall significanctly short of the target ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICUTURE, (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. According preliminary estimates the target of oilseed production is likely to be achieved during 1993-94.

Proposal to increase Production of Oilseeds

1543. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the production of oilseed in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether more areas would be brought under the oilseed production ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to increase the production of oilseeds, Centrally Sponsored Oilseed Production Programme (OPP) is operative in 21 States covering 325 districts. Under this programme assistance is provided to the farmers for production and distribution of seeds, plant protection chemicals and equipment, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, rhyzobium culture, gypsum/pyrites micro-nutrients. In addition, frontline demonstration and block demonstrations are organised by ICAR and State Department of Agriculture on farmer's fields. The Government of India has made financial allocation of Rs. 97.5 crores for 1993-94 for O.P.P.

(c) and (d) There are possibilities to increase area under Soyabean and Sunflower in Kharif and under Mustard, Sunflower and Groundnut in Rabi in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

Oilseed Production

1544. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any shortage of oilseed production in the country during the year 1993-94 ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to fulfil the shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The production target of oilseeds is likely to be achieved during 1993-94.

(c) To increase the production of oilseeds a Centrally Sponsored Oilseed Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 325 districts of 21 States. Under the programme assistance is provided for production and distribution of seeds, supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets, opening of retail outlets, Gypsum/ Pyrites Micronutrients distribution to the farmers.

खाद्यान्नों का अनुमानित उत्पादन

1545. **श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1993-94 के दौरान खाद्यान्नों का उत्पादन कितना होने का अनुमान है ;

(ख) क्या खाद्यान्नों का उत्पादन इस सम्बन्ध में निर्धारित लक्ष्य के अनुरूप होगा या इसमें गिरावट आएगी ; और

(ग) यदि इसमें गिरावट आई है तो उसके क्या कारण है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविन्द नेताम) : (क) वर्तमान मूल्यांकन के अनुसार 1993-94 में खाद्यान्नों का उत्पादन लगभग 179 10 मिलियन मीटरी टन होने की आशा है।

(ख) वर्तमान वर्ष के दौरान खाद्यान्नों का उत्पादन निर्धारित लक्ष्य से कम होने की संभावना है।